

Cover Story

A Day of Honor

Buckley celebrates Veterans Day with numerous activities over the weekend.

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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Snyder



Twelfth chief speaks:
The 12th chief master sergeant of the Air Force visits Buckley **-Page 4**

ARPC celebrates fifty years



The Air Reserve Personnel Center Denver is rich in history. Follow along as 50 years are remembered.
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Buckley Viewpoint: Excelling here is easy

Action Line

Q: For years I was told that reproducing or copying an DoD military identification card was not allowed. Yet to pick up a prescription at the Buckley pharmacy for a spouse or sponsor, you must have a copy of the member's military I.D. card.

If copying a DoD military I.D. card is not allowed, why is the pharmacy telling authorized patrons to make copies to pick up prescriptions?

A: In 1998, the Office of Surgeon General addressed the issue of releasing prescriptions to patient representatives. In a policy letter dated May 22, 1998, Maj. Gen. Earl Mabry, commander of the Air

Force Medical Operations Agency stated that a photocopy of the beneficiary's I.D. card was authorized and sufficient as proof of the eligibility to release prescriptions to an authorized patient representative.

Q: I'm writing in regards to the service at the base exchange. I am a frequent shopper at the BX and really enjoy being able to shop there. My problem is the long wait in the customer service line. Most mornings there is only one person there to serve several patrons. That person is very friendly, courteous and professional but she can only serve one person at a time and needs help.

Please check this out

A: Thank you for your question concerning the customer service counter at the base exchange. Normal manning for the department is two people. When there are few or no customers, one of the associates may be pulled to work other tasks, such as restocking returns. When it gets busy again, they will be called back.

However, since this appears not to have been the case during your visit, we will be monitoring this area more closely to prevent this from happening again. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

The Commander's Action Line is a way for the Front Range military community to bring issues, concerns and comments (positive or negative) to my attention.

The action line phone number is 303-677-9881.

When leaving messages, people are not required to identify themselves. However, if you'd like a personal response, please leave your name, telephone number and mailing address. Provide as many specifics on your issue as possible. If you have a recommended solution, include it as well. Not all action lines will be published.

If the issue is detailed or lengthy, you may also send items to me through the 460th Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office via fax at 303-677-6887, e-mail to newspaper@buckley.af.mil or mail your submission to the following address:

**Commander's Action Line
c/o 460 ABW/PA
18401 E. A-Basin Stop 88
Buckley AFB CO 80011-9524**

Please use this valuable communication tool. I look forward to hearing new ideas and answering your questions.

Allen Kirkman Jr.
ALLEN KIRKMAN JR.
Colonel, USAF
Commander



Col. Allen Kirkman Jr.

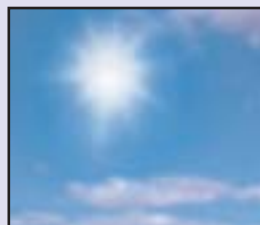
History Tidbits

Significance of the 460th Air Base Wing emblem

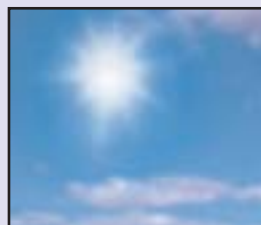
Blue and gold are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Gold refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The winged eye derives from the 460 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, one of the former designators of 460 ABW. The two orbiting Pole Stars depict the active duty and reserve components supported by the wing. The globe symbolizes the global nature of the Wing's mission.



Buckley's Weekend Weather Forecast



Friday:
Mostly sunny
and clear
High: 58
Low: 26



Saturday:
Mostly sunny
and clear
High: 58
Low: 24



Sunday:
Sunny, partly
cloudy
High: 51
Low: 25

Courtesy of the National Weather Service, www.weather.gov

Cover Story

A veteran's affair: Buckley salutes local heros

By 2nd Lt. Carla Gleason
460th Public Affairs

What does Veteran's Day mean to you? An extra day off? A few more precious hours of sleep? Or is it symbolic of much more?

This Veterans Day, many members of the 460th Air Base Wing and Team Buckley spent their holiday showing some good old fashioned patriotism while honoring some of our nation's heroes.

Buckley's salute to veterans began with a luncheon salute on Nov 6.

"We assemble this morning to salute you...our veterans," said Col. Allen Kirkman, Jr., commander of the 460th Air Base Wing in his opening remarks to the some 500 veterans who attended the luncheon held in hangar 909. "You have each given us the gift of freedom and we salute you."

The luncheon was organized by the city of Aurora and included several speakers, a live radio broadcast from 1430 AM KEZW and lunch catered by Carraba's Italian Grill.

Although the luncheon was a resounding success, the observance didn't stop there. More than 75 Buckley volunteers showed up bright and early Saturday morning to march in the downtown Denver Veteran's parade.

The official story of the origins of Veterans Day is well known. According to the National Veterans Foundation, at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns of World War I fell silent and "Armistice Day" was born. Eight years later a Presidential Proclamation invited people to observe the day with appropriate

ceremonies. With the passage of time it was changed to "Veterans Day". This year Buckley's Sergeants' Association, including more than 20 volunteers and the 460 ABW commander, chose to celebrate the observance in a personal way, by visiting veterans in the local VA hospital and nursing home.

"Many of our veterans are many miles away from their home and loved ones and visits are always greatly appreciated," said Randy Emeterio, head of volunteer service and public affairs at the local VA hospital. "These veterans made it safe for us to live free in our nation today; we celebrate Veterans Day every day here year round."

The visit wasn't just an opportunity for Buckley members to express their often long overdue thanks; it also gave the veteran residents a chance to relive their war stories. And everyone came away a little more educated.

"I was a medic in the army for 20 years starting in 1940," said VA hospital patient Bernice Harvies. "After I got my education, they sent me to work training new medics to ship out." And who were those medics according to Harvies? Army cooks who couldn't get along with their sergeants.

"Our retraining methods are a



Photo by 2nd Lt. Carla Gleason

John Miller, a cancer patient at the local VA hospital, takes a moment to reflect on his years of Air Force service. Chief Master Sgt. Rene Simard, 460 ABW command chief along with more than 20 Buckley volunteers dedicated their time during Veterans Day at the Denver VA Hospital.

little different today," said 460th ABW Command Chief Master Sgt. Rene Simard, chuckling at the vision of Army cooks turned medics.

After the morning visit, Kirkman treated everyone to lunch and then it was off to yet another observance ceremony, this one a little more somber. Fairmont Cemetery hosts a veteran's remembrance ceremony annually, giving them the opportunity to both honor veterans and educate the younger generation about the sacrifice military members give for our country.

"On this day we pause to reflect on those who gave given so much to our nation. On this day we pause to thank you for your sacrifice," said Kirkman as he addressed the

crowd of veterans and civilians alike. The observance was marked by a medal presentation honoring our "forgotten heroes," keynote speaker Congressman Bob Beauprez and a flag retirement ceremony by two local Boy Scout troops. Buckley's Honor Guard gave a resounding 21 gun salute and the crowd dispersed to the sound of Taps played by the John Philip Sousa Band of Colorado.

"If history has taught us anything, it is that Americans will bear any hardship, overcome any obstacle and conquer any for their pursuit of liberty and justice," said Kirkman. "To all who have worn our nation's uniform, America is better for your service."

Buckley finance office tests continuously updated pay system

Courtesy of 460th Public Affairs

A new online financial tool is available to Team Buckley members now. The 460th Comptroller Flight signed Buckley up as a test base for a continuously updated financial record that can be accessed through Leaveweb.

How does the new Leaveweb options differ from myPay?

According to 2nd Lt. Damon Roberts, chief of financial services

here, the difference lies in the real-time updates.

"Leaveweb shows more information to the individual. They can look to see if any changes have taken affect almost instantly," said Roberts.

There are still advantages of myPay over Leaveweb, according to Roberts. In myPay, the member is allowed to make changes to their information, such as changes to tax withholdings, address, starting or

stopping an allotment and printing their leave and earning statements.

Leaveweb, is for informational purposes, but the information shown is the most current available.

There are new enhancements to Leaveweb as the test phase continues, said Roberts, so members should access it on a regular

basis.

For more information on Leaveweb, contact the finance office at 303-677-6416.

To check out the new additions to Leaveweb, go to <https://leave.buckley.af.mil>



Twelfth chief of Air Force visits Buckley

By Staff Sgt. Christine Castillo
460th Public Affairs

Most airmen who’ve read Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, better known as the Promotion Fitness Examination (PFE) study guide, know the name Chief Master Sgt. Eric Benken. Benken was the 12th chief master sergeant of the Air Force, so he is mentioned in the history chapter of the PFE. But Team Buckley members were given an opportunity Nov. 6 to meet the retired chief, ask questions and get feedback from the man himself.

Benken’s busy schedule at Buckley consisted of attending the Veteran’s Day Salute, hosting an enlisted call and speaking at a Buckley Airman Leadership School graduation.

Although this wasn’t Benken’s first sight of Buckley, it was his first real visit. His first impressions of the base were positive ones.

“I’m very impressed with the growing base, missions and the diversity in the kinds of missions that Buckley has to offer,” said Benken. He also mentioned that the people and the leadership here really stood out.

Since his retirement, Benken thinks of his role as a ‘cheerleader’ for the armed forces. His main points in his visits to bases include core values and the importance of military service.

During the enlisted call, the chief recalled personal experiences over his 30-year career contrasting anti-war protests of the Vietnam era

to the present value that many Americans place on the armed forces. He also illustrated how far technology has advanced by explaining how jobs that used to take hours on manual typewriters now take seconds on computers and how science fiction has become a reality in cellular phones, wireless networking and the Air Force’s Airborne Laser.

“The one thing that hasn’t changed is that the Air Force is still about teamwork and service,” said Benken.

At the end of the meeting, the chief took questions from the audience:

What can you tell us about the future of the Air Force?

“I still don’t think we have caught up with the fact that we were a cold war force in the 1980s,” said Benken. “In 1989 (when the Soviet Union fell), suddenly there was much less need for many of our overseas bases. That is what started our transition to the expeditionary concept. Today, I think Secretary Rumsfeld has a much better idea of what type of force we need to be. In the future, I think the Air Force will be much more ‘blended’ with active-duty,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Arian Nead

Retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Eric Benken speaks to troops during an enlisted call Nov. 6. Benken answered questions and shared memories during the call.

Guard and reserve people working more closely. And I’m sure that the Air Force will continue to evolve.”

What are the secrets of your success?

“First, pay attention to the basics: dress and appearance, timeliness and doing the job right the first time,” said Benken. “The second part of setting yourself up for success in the Air force is education. Get all that you can. Aside from helping during your Air Force career, I can tell you from personal experience that, when you transition to a civilian job, employers look for educated people. In fact, the minimum requirement for most of the best management positions is

a bachelors degree.”

In addition to conducting two enlisted calls, the chief presided at an airman leadership school graduation and attended with local veterans during a Buckley’s 9th annual Veteran’s Salute.

“He is an excellent public speaker – very entertaining and charismatic,” said Staff Sgt. Tiffany Dlugi, a graphic artist from the 460th Communications Squadron. “The thing that most impressed me about the chief is that he was here for the veteran’s salute. I think it’s great that our veterans were recognized and honored this way.”

THE BLOTTER ENTRIES

Emergency Response

Location: Bldg. 429
The fire department notified the law enforcement desk that an engine responded to Bldg. 429 for an alarm. One patrol was dispatched for assistance. The fire chief stated the cause of alarm was a malfunction.

GOV vs. POV

Location: Sunlight Way and Aspen Street
A military member notified the law enforcement desk of a minor vehicle accident at the intersection of Sunlight Way and Aspen Street. One patrol was dispatched. The military member backed into a truck while stopped at the stop sign. Both parties completed minor vehicle accident worksheets

Unlocked Facility

Location: Bldg. 606
A security forces member notified the law enforcement desk of a unsecured door on the east side of Bldg. 606. One patrol was dispatched. Security forces established a cordon and attempted to contact the building custodian. The law enforcement desk contacted the command post and they weren't

able to use a master key to lock the exterior door. Security forces conducted hourly checks on facility.

Emergency Response

Location: Bldg. 40, Sixth Avenue Gate
The Sixth Avenue Gate entry controller notified the law enforcement desk that an individual at his gate complained of head pain due to an injury sustained while playing hockey off of the installation. The law enforcement desk notified the fire department who dispatched a unit to assist. The fire department assessed the individual's condition and requested an ambulance for a possible concussion. The individual was transported to a local medical facility.

Emergency Response

Location: Bldg. 401
The fire department notified the law enforcement desk that an engine responded to Bldg. 401 for an alarm. Two patrols were dispatched for assistance. The fire chief terminated the response, stating the cause of the alarm was panel malfunction.

Theft of Private Property

Location: Bldg. 1011
A base construction worker notified the law enforcement desk that a power tool had been taken from their construction area. There are currently no suspects. The incident is pending further investigation.

Emergency Response

Location: Bldg. 490
The fire department notified the law enforcement desk that an engine responded to Bldg. 490 for a female suffering from chest pains. Two patrols were dispatched. The fire department treated the individual on scene and an ambulance transported her to a local medical facility.

Hazardous Material Incident

Location: West Of Bldg. 471
A security forces member notified the law enforcement desk of a hazardous substance spill near Bldg. 471. Three patrols were dispatched to cordon off the area. The spill was cleaned up and the fire chief terminated the response.

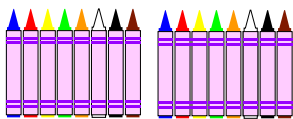
Suspicious Vehicle

Location: East of Bldg. 1642

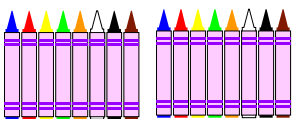
Security forces personnel notified the law enforcement desk that a suspicious vehicle was parked near Bldg. 1642 . The members made contact with the vehicle's owner who stated he was waiting for his daughter. The law enforcement desk notified the Aurora Police Department who dispatched a unit. One patrol was dispatched to observe the vehicle from the inside of the installation. The Aurora Police Department officer did not see the vehicle.

Unlocked Facility

Location: Bldg. 1301, Naval Reserve Center
A security forces member notified the law enforcement desk that while conducting a check of Bldg. 1301, he found a door on the west side of the building unsecured with no signs of forced entry. One patrol was dispatched. Security forces established a cordon and completed a walk around of the facility. Security forces contacted the building custodian, who responded. Security forces and the building custodian conducted an interior check of the facility where everything appeared to be in order.



Attention *Team Buckley Members*



The installation will be hosting a Team Buckley Coloring Contest beginning Nov. 21. The contest is open to children ages 0-10. The winner chosen will be featured on the holiday cover, Dec. 19 of the base newspaper. Every branch of service is welcome to submit their child's artwork. So, look for the coloring sheet and entry form on Page 3 of next week's issue and enter!

-Henry David Thoreau

Opportunities to excel await you at the military's newest Air Force base

Take root in Buckley's growing garden of success. Get involved, make a difference and bloom where you're planted!

Black Cyan Magenta Yellow
Plate Plate Plate Plate

Star Performer

Name: Staff Sgt. Rachel Estrada

Duty Title: Medical laboratory journeyman

Hometown: Lafayette, La.

Time-in-service: Eight years

Hobbies: Swimming, mountain hiking, and caring for “Hobbs” her Shibu Inu (small furry dog)

Staff Sgt. Rachel Estrada credits her mother, Kathleen, for her life successes.

“Mom had an awesome way of making me believe in myself. Any time I would feel discouraged, a quick talk with Mom would vividly remind me that she believed in me, so why shouldn’t I do the same. Parents play such a vital role in how their kids see themselves in the world,” said Estrada.

Unfortunately, she lost her mother last year. “I have three younger siblings and I find myself taking on the role left by the loss of our mother. I talk to them often and pass on the family support and advice that I received from Mom. I think they listen to me. They have always praised my decision to join the Air Force. Even though I am

away from them, they recognize the positive impact my choice to join and stay in the Air Force has made in my life,” said Estrada.

Estrada has made the most of her Air Force career and has definitely established an outstanding military record. She was the Air Force Space Command’s Medical Laboratory Airman Technician of the Year for 2001.

“That award meant a lot to me. I already knew that I was working hard, but the award let me know that my leadership recognized the effort that I was putting forward. Supervisors should never miss an opportunity to let those down the chain-of-command know that they are being watched and appreciated,” said Estrada.

She lists a tour of duty at Yakota Air Base, Japan and completing an Applied Science Degree in

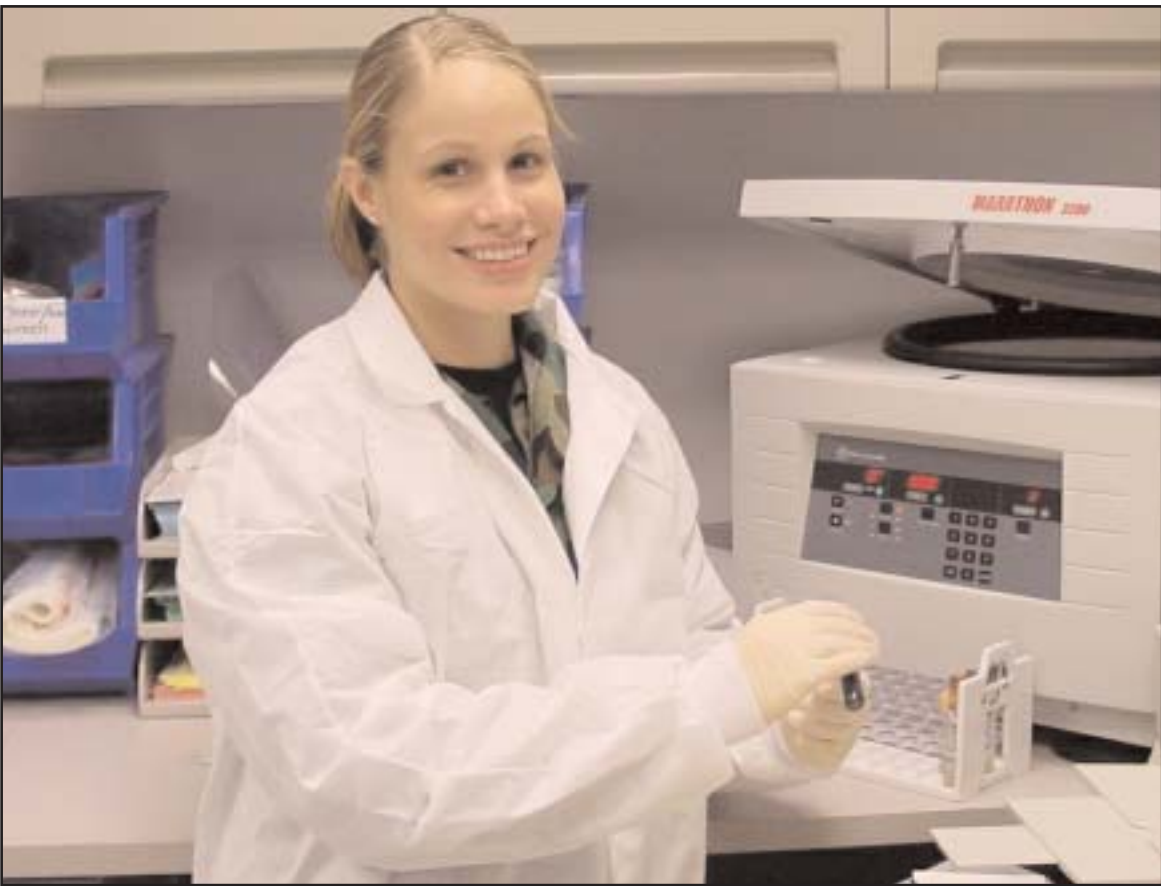


Photo courtesy of 460th Medical Squadron

Staff Sgt. Rachel Estrada works with some specimens in the laboratory at the 460th Medical Squadron. Estrada gives her mother and her husband credit for the person she is today.

Laboratory Medical Technology at the top of a very promising career.

“I loved Japan. I find other cultures fascinating and appreciate the opportunity the Air Force afforded me to live in the Orient. As far as an education, I was in

college when I enlisted and my recruiter helped me find a job as a medic. My training in the lab matches perfectly with my long term goals of focusing on a career in forensic psychology,” said Estrada.

High Frontier Dining Facility Menu (Nov. 14 - 20)

Dining hours

Breakfast: 5:30 a.m. - 8 a.m.; Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Dinner: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.; Midnight Meal: 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
LUNCH	Chicken noodle soup Swiss steak with tomato sauce Baked chicken Sweet Italian sausage Peppers and onions Steamed rice Mashed potatoes Chicken/turkey gravy Broccoli polonaise Carrots	New England clam chowder Onion and lemon baked fish Pork schnitzel steak Yakisoba beef and spaghetti Baked potatoes Mashed potatoes Mushroom gravy Simmered pinto beans Spinach Stewed tomatoes	Chicken with rice soup Caribbean jerk chicken Beef porcupines Chicken enchilada Scalloped potatoes Steamed rice Brown gravy Mexican corn Peas and onions Savory baked beans	Beef noodle soup Orange-spiced chops Liver with onions Tempura fried fish Rissolle potatoes Steamed rice Brown gravy Broccoli Peas with carrots Wax beans	Vegetable soup Fish Newburg Beef and corn pie Roast turkey Pea and pepper rice Cream gravy Corn on the cob Stewed tomatoes Mustard greens	Double good chicken Savory baked chicken Swedish meatballs Creole shrimp Baked potatoes Steamed rice Chicken/turkey gravy Cream corn Asparagus Squash	Knickerbocker soup Oven fried fish Cantonese spareribs Grilled mustard chicken Baked macaroni and cheese Boiled egg noodles Brown gravy Peas Sweet potato Broccoli combo
DINNER	Chicken noodle soup Roast turkey Baked can ham Raisin sauce Fish and fries Mashed potatoes Corn bread dressing Chicken/turkey gravy Succotash Tempura vegetables Herbed green beans Short Order: Cannonball sandwich Fried chicken nuggets	New England clam chowder Paprika beef BBQ beef cubes Chicken fajitas O'Brien potatoes Steamed rice Brown gravy Cauliflower Corn on the cob Lima beans Short Order: Steak and cheese sub Tacos	Chicken with rice soup Pita pizzas Country style steak Fried chicken Oven browned potatoes Mashed potatoes Brown gravy Fried cauliflower Bean combo Short Order: Cheese pizza Reuben sandwich	Beef noodle soup Mr. Z blackened chicken Pepper steak Pasta primavera Mashed potatoes Steamed rice Brown gravy Mixed vegetables Fried okra Green beans Short Order: Buffalo wings Roast beef sub	Vegetable soup Simmered corn beef Pineapple chicken Yankee pot roast Crispy potato wedges Simmered potatoes Brown gravy Fried cabbage Carrots Black-eyed peas Short Order: BBQ pork sandwich Burritos	Double good chicken Baked fish Hungarian goulash BBQ chicken Parsley butter potatoes Onion gravy Steamed rice Vegetable stir fry Boston baked beans Cream corn Short Order: Fried chicken nuggets Hot Italian sausage	Knickerbocker soup Stir fry beef with broccoli Turkey nuggets Loin Strip steak Mushroom and onion sauce Baked potatoes Rice pilaf Brown gravy Corn on the cob Short Order: Cheese pizza Reuben sandwich



Sacked!

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.
-- Falcons quarterback Chance Harridge plunges forward for a first down at midfield. The senior ran for 80 yards and passed for 71 more, during the academy's 31-3 victory over Army on Nov. 8. The win improves the Air Force record to 7-3, while Army falls to 0-10 on the season.



Photo by John Van Winkle

Civilian health care premiums rising, 'open season' begins

Courtesy of 460th Public Affairs Office

Air Force civilian health care plan premiums are expected to increase an average of more than 10 percent in January - that means employees with 'self-only' coverage will pay about \$5 more per pay period and those with 'family coverage' will pay \$11.95 more.

Employees will have the opportunity to review and update plans during the program's open season, Nov. 10 - Dec. 8.

The number of health plan carriers is also increasing by 17 for a total of 205 options available for employees to choose from in 2004, said Janet Thomas of the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Included in the increase of carriers are two new "consumer-driven" plans that allow employees to manage their own health care needs and health dollars. Nine health plan carriers are dropping out of the Federal Employee's Health Benefits program this year.

There is a fairly easy way for employees to inquire about different health care providers, according

to Darrel M. Hoffman, administrative assistant in Buckley's Civilian Personnel office.

"(Employees) can review what plan they have with other plans and compare costs and types of coverage," said Hoffman.

People need to look at what their income is compared to what the costs of the plans are for the new year and decide if a change is in order, according to Hoffman.

Office of personnel management officials released the FEHB guides comparing costs, benefits and quality indicators. Those guides are available online at

www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.asp. Individual plan brochures will be available soon.

OPM will not be sending out civilian personnel health care booklets to bases in the coming year to try to keep costs lower for employees.

More FEHB information is available on the OPM website at www.opm.gov/insure or the BEST homepage at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm.

All Air Force-serviced civilian employees must make their open

season changes by one of two methods:

-- AFPC's Employee Benefits Information System web site at [/www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST_GRB/EBIS.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST_GRB/EBIS.htm). Employees with self and family coverage or other insurance can use the BEST web automated system to make their elections and avoid having to transfer to a counselor to complete their transaction. Another advantage of making the election via the web is employees can print a copy of their health benefits election form (SF 2809) as soon as they

complete their election.

-- The BEST automated phone system at 1-800-997-2378 or commercial 527-2378 if calling within the San Antonio, Texas area. Hearing impaired employees may call the TDD line at 1-800-382-0893, or commercial 565-2276 within San Antonio. Overseas employees may use the AT&T toll-free direct access number for the country that they are in. Direct access numbers can be found on the web at www.att.com/business_traveler/guides_and_access/dialing_instr.html#outside.

-See Premiums, Page 11



Fifty years: *ARPC reflects on past, prepares for future*

By Lt. Col. Gus Schalkham
Air Reserve Personnel Center

While Buckley's Air Base Wing is just beginning a new heritage, one team member, the Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC) is celebrating a milestone this month. ARPC is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Fifty years ago Nov. 1, 1953 the Air Reserve Records Center, later renamed the Air Reserve Personnel Center, was established in Denver, Colo. to centralize and standardize reserve records custody. Wow! We have sure come a long way from what our mission was in 1950.

ARPC opened for business at 3800 York St. in 1954, and remained at that location until moving to Lowry Air Force Base, Colo. in Sept. 1976.

Today, our primary mission at ARPC is mobilization. Col. Jim Playford, ARPC Commander, shared some insight.

"At the height of the mobilization after Sept. 11, 2001, we processed more than 4,000 individual mobilization augmentees who came forward when our nation called. We are very proud of that fact. Additionally, we provide personnel and administrative support to more than 1.2 million Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members to ensure they are ready, available resources for our total

force team."

Playford added, "And while we're proud of our small role in preparing the nation's reserve forces, our citizen airmen have shown a remarkable willingness and readiness to serve in time of need. Current events have certainly made many people aware that reservists are on the front lines of the nation's war on terror. Whether active duty, Guard or Reserve, we are all members of one team with one goal: the defense and preservation of our great country."

What many people do not know is the extent the reserves have played in those national emergencies with regard to mobilization. They are not familiar with the rich history and role ARPC has accomplished over the past 50 years being an instrumental factor in our nation's ability to mobilize.

Most of the general public understands reservists have been called upon to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. But the first mobilization took place in 1961 to support the Berlin Crisis, and this was followed by another call during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. Vietnam, Kosovo, Desert Storm/Desert Shield saw additional needs for mobilization and reservists came forward to answer the call.

Where does the next 50 years take us? We know since the events



Courtesy photo

Evelyn Hansen, a civilian employee at ARPC in the 1950s, reaches for a file on the top shelf in the ARPC library. ARPC opened for business in 1954 at 38th and York Street in Denver. In 1976, it moved to its present location on former Lowry AFB.

of 9/11 that the world we live in has changed. But what is necessary to succeed today is the same ingredient we needed for the past 50 years of our ARPC history - people. The world's leading-edge technology is useless without the well-trained, well-prepared men and women to field it.

"Whatever the transformation - change is something the men and women of Air Force Reserve team has been doing quite well for the past 50 years and I know they will continue to excel and lead us in the next Golden Jubilee celebration of the American spirit of freedom," said Playford.

Climate survey makes a voice heard: Yours

By 1st Lt. B.J. Strawser
460th Manpower Office

Have you ever wanted to make your voice heard? Have you ever wanted to speak out on important issues here at Buckley or in your workcenter? Well with the 2003 Air Force Climate Survey you have the perfect opportunity to do just that. This survey, formally known as the Air Force Chief of Staff Survey after it was initiated by Gen. John P. Jumper, asks all Air Force personnel for their input and feedback on how they feel their unit or workcenter is doing – particularly in regards to the work environment. It consists of a handful of questions ranging from coworker interaction to your supervisor’s leadership abilities and many other vital topics.

This is an invaluable tool for commanders, as each one will receive a report detailing all the responses, comments and survey

data for their unit. All commanders will then brief the results of the survey back to their unit sometime early in 2004. Best of all, the 2003 Air Force Climate Survey is completely anonymous. The system developed by the Air Force Manpower and Innovation Agency works hard to maintain your anonymity. The demographic data that the survey asks for will not be passed onto your commander; only the survey results themselves will be forwarded. This freedom allows for us to speak without reservation or fear of reprisal to communicate important issues to our leaders. You can rest assured that your identity will be protected – so be honest and forthright in the survey.

Almost everyone is eligible to



take the survey: All active duty Air Force, civilian government employees and Air Force Guard and Reserve personnel can log on and take the survey. The web-based system ensures that you will be able to complete the survey in an expedient manner – it is quick and painless. It has taken approximately 30 minutes for most who have taken it, although the amount of extra comments you chose to include in the survey will ultimately affect how long it takes. One other note is that the survey will not accept a survey that it can tell has been quickly whipped through. That is, if you simply click through each screen as fast as possible without reading the questions, the survey will not count. So

take some time and do this right – give valuable and accurate input that the Air Force leadership can use to make future decisions.

To take the survey simply log-on anywhere you have access to the Internet (at your home or office) to <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil/> and click on "Take the Survey". After a couple introductory screens you are on to the survey. Our goal is to have the highest participation rates as possible for the survey to ensure that the data our leadership receives is an accurate reflection of all the troops. If you have not yet done so, you only have a short while left to take the survey: it runs through Nov.r 23. The 460th Air Base Wing commander, Col. Allen Kirkman Jr. encourages all personnel at Buckley to please take the survey today!

For more information or questions regarding the survey, contact 1st Lt. B. Jay Strawser at 303-677-6941.



High Frontier Dining Facility Thanksgiving Meal

The 460th Services Division is scheduled to host a Thanksgiving lunch at the High Frontier Dining Facility Nov. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meal is open to all active duty personnel, retirees and their immediate families.

For more information, contact the High Frontier Dining Facility at 303-677-9642 or the services division at 303-677-6110.



Great sense of pride...

Barracks Marines remember birth, sacrfices for country

By Cpl. Nathan A. Tiller
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- On Nov. 10, 1775, an act by the Continental Congress established the Continental Marines, giving rise to the United States Marine Corps. Two hundred and twenty eight years later, the Corps is stronger than ever; Marines never forgetting to remember those who have gone before and thanking them for what they've done.

For leathernecks stationed at Marine Barracks, "8th and I", Washington, D.C., this sense of belonging is even greater. It is here where the Corps began to prove itself, with Marines fighting the British during the Revolutionary War and later standing the test yet again during the War of 1812 at the

Battle of Bladensburg, just a few miles from our Nation's Capitol. To commemorate our founding, Marines from the Barracks held a mid-day parade and wreath-laying ceremony Nov. 10 at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va.

After a performance by "The President's Own" United States Marine Corps Band, Barracks Marines marched out onto the parade deck to pay tribute to all those Marines past and present who were in attendance.

The guest of honor, 30th commandant, retired general Carl E. Mundy Jr. shared his thoughts on the current state of the Corps.

"Sometimes we spend so much time trying to carry a tune, we forget about the meaning of the words," he said, before reciting and

reflecting upon the Marine Corps' Hymn. He then made note of America's pride and gratefulness for the services we as a Corps provide. The solemn former commandant said it's because of the contributions of Marines past and present that the Marine Corps is what it is today.

After speaking, he joined current Commandant, Gen. Michael W. Hagee and Barracks Commander, Col. Daniel P. O'Brien in the honor party, for their walk across the parade deck to lay a wreath at the foot of the memorial.

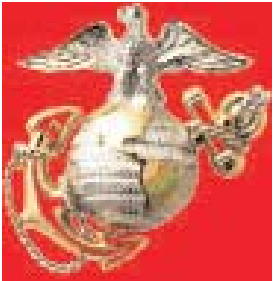
For "8th and I" devil dogs, having this responsibility to put on such a show adds to their deep-rooted sense of duty and honor, making the Corps' birthday more than just another day. It's Thanksgiving, Christmas and New

Year's wrapped into one.

This ceremony-filled time of year for the Corps doesn't just have meaning for active duty or reserve Marines. Veterans and those who value the sacrifices our men and women in uniform make also take great pride in celebrating the history of the Corps.

"Once a Marine, always a Marine. This is our day," said former gunnery sergeant Jerome S. Sonnier. "Camaraderie, old friends...friends who are no longer here."

The actions of those Marines before us fuel our quest, make our job easier and never fail to motivate us through any and every situation. For their sake, and ours, we must never forget.



DECA invites everyone to support military families, charities with the ‘Gift of Groceries’

By Master Sgt. Deb Smith
460th Public Affairs

With the holiday season upon us, households everywhere are preparing for the annual invasion of family and friends. Turkey and all the trimmings, fabulous deserts, and of course, a parade of never-ending snacks during the big game! A time to truly be thankful for the freedom we enjoy—and the service members that protect it.

And to thank our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) encourages anyone—not just service members—to give the “gift of groceries” this holiday season.

The “Gift of Groceries” program replaces the local “plastic” commissary gift card program, which is slated to be phased out at a later date. While the cards have been available in commissaries since the fall of 2001, and have

been well received by installation programs such as food banks or chaplains funds, a major drawback was the card’s lack of portability—meaning the card had to be spent in the same store in which it was purchased.

However, the new “Gifts of Groceries” certificates will add not only portability among commissaries around the world, but the convenience of ordering them over the Internet. Also, anyone can purchase the new certificates, anytime of day, but they can only be redeemed by authorized commissary shoppers.

The certificates are made possible through an agreement with CertifiChecks Inc. at no cost to DeCA or the federal government.

Kaye Kennedy, chief, corporate communications, said in a recent DeCA press release that the new commissary gift certificates are an ideal way for friends, family and the public to show their support for

military families by giving the certificates as gifts, or donating them directly to military charities that assist families in need.

“Last year we heard from a number of installation organizations with holiday assistance and food programs that the gift certificate program really worked for them,” said Kennedy. “In addition, the public was generous in donating gift certificates to worldwide organizations that assist the military, such as the USO, Air Force Aid Society and Fisher House Foundation.”

The certificates are not available for sale in commissaries, but can be purchased online with a credit card at www.commissaries.com or by calling toll free 1-877-770-GIFT. They can also be purchased with a mail-in or FAX form found at the gift certificate link at www.commissaries.com.

A standard charge of \$4.95, paid by the purchaser, covers the costs

Commissary gift certificates can be purchased several ways:

Order by phone at 1-877-770-4438 (U.S. ONLY) or www.commissaries.com/certifichack/index.htm. Purchase online to give as a gift to an authorized shopper for a special occasion.

of handling, printing and mailing. Additional charges may apply for large orders or special delivery, but installation charities can apply for a waiver by checking with their local commissary.

“The commissary benefit offers an average savings of 30 percent or more, and that can really extend the purchasing power of a family using a commissary gift certificate,” said Kennedy.

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Benefits counselors are available weekdays, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. central time.

During this open season, eligible employees may also enroll in the Flexible Spending Account program for calendar year 2004. There are two types of FSA accounts: the Health Care Flexible Spending Account (HCFSA) and

the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCFSA). FSA enrollment is conducted directly with SHPS Inc., the third party program administrator, at www.fsafeds.com/fsafeds or 1-877-372-3337, or TDD: 1-800-952-0450.

Employees eligible for FEHB, even if not currently enrolled, are eligible to elect a Health Care FSA.

All employees with qualified dependents may enroll in the Dependent Care FSA except temporary employees with no fixed work schedule whose tour of duty is six months or less. Additional information regarding the FSA program is available on the BEST Homepage and the FSAFEDS Web site.

Hoffman recommends any

employees with a military spouse not get their own health care policy because there’s no need for two plans. Couples that have one military spouse can consolidate and use the military insurance to save money.

(Additional information compiled by Air Force Personnel Center news.)



Buckley Chapel Schedule



Worship Services and Religious Education

Protestant
Sunday: Bible study, 9.a.m.
Tuesday: Aerospace Data Facility Bible study,

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., ADF conference room C.
Wednesday: Apologetics discussion group, noon - 1 p.m., base chapel (except for second Wednesday of each month)
Singles dorm fellowship: 5 p.m., dormitory lobby.

Catholics
Saturday: Confession, 2:30 p.m.; Mass, 3 p.m.

Other Faith Groups
Please contact the base chapel at 303-677-6411 for information on local and regional faith

groups.

Special events
Fellowship luncheon:
Second Wednesday of each month, from 12 to 12:45 p.m for food, fellowship and a brief devotion.

460th Comm Squadron repeats as flag football champs

Courtesy of Buckley Fitness Center

On a cold day at Buckley Air Force Base, the 460th Communications Squadron steamed through the playoffs to capture the championship for the second year in a row. In order to make it happen they first beat the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion 20-0 on Oct. 27. Then on Nov. 1, they beat the MACS-23 unit 38-23, and in the championship game they defeated Defense Finance Accounting Service Denver (DFAS) 16-8.

In capturing the championship for the second year in a row, the 460 CS accomplished a feat that has never been recorded at Buckley

AFB in any sport, an undefeated season. They went 11-0 in the regular season, and then steamed to three additional victories in the playoffs. This was the ultimate goal of our season, coach Alvin Lee said, “To go out on the field with the level of competition we have to play on a daily basis, and win 14 in a row is even more than we could have hoped for.” Our whole team played together and in the end it certainly worked for us.

The team representing DFAS pulled off two upsets in the playoffs to get into the championship

game. They first beat the second seeded Navy team 20-13, and then beat an upstart fire department team 12-8, on the last play of the game. That come from behind victory was one of the most exciting games to watch on Saturday. The DFAS coach, John Osborne, said “I feel like our team played well together and worked really hard in the playoffs. To go out and play like we did against a very good team was awesome. I know we came up short this year, but now we have tasted what it is like, and we look forward to the chance to get back there

again and turn the outcome in our favor. This years flag football season was full of surprises and upsets. Tech. Sgt. Ronald Stelly, fitness center noncommissioned officer in charge said, “ This was one of the most fantastic seasons ever at Buckley AFB. The level of competition was outstanding and the camaraderie that developed between teams was more than I could have hoped for. I am sure that next season will be even more fantastic.” For information on intramural sports contact Michael Deckard at 303-677-6144 or Tech. Sgt. Ronald Stelly at 303-677-6679.

